

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-2 (withdrawn)

Claims 3-11 (canceled)

Claim 12-13 (withdrawn)

Claims 14-17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (withdrawn)

Claims 19-22 (cancelled)

Claims 23-24 (withdrawn)

Claims 25-27 (cancelled)

Claims 28-32 (withdrawn)

Claim 33 (cancelled)

Claim 34 (withdrawn)

Claim 35 (cancelled)

Claim 36 (withdrawn)

Claims 37-41 (cancelled)

Claims 42-43 (withdrawn)

Claims 44-53 (cancelled)

Claim 54 (withdrawn)

Claims 55-97 (cancelled)

Claim 1 (Amended) A linkage device that can be connected with at least one of another linkage devices and to itself, said linkage device comprising:

a strip having a first end and a second end;

a closure hub attached to said first end of said strip and having an opening to receive the second end of ~~at least another linkage device and said linkage device~~;

a locking mechanism within said closure hub;

a connecting surface protruding from said strip and operable to secure said second end within said closure hub; and

an application distinct tag ~~a tampering detection device~~ connected to said linkage device.

Claim 98 (New) The linkage device of claim 1 wherein changes in said application distinct tag identify whether the linkage device has been tampered with.

Claim 99 (New) The linkage device of claim 1 wherein said device is made from biodegradable material.

Claim 100 (New) The linkage device of claim 1 wherein information on said application distinct tag is detectable by photon activation.

Claim 101 (New) The linkage device of claim 100 wherein said photon activation comprises at least one of laser photon activation, visible light photon activation, radio frequency photon activation, X-ray photon activation, and infrared photon activation.

Claim 102 (New) The linkage device of claim 1 wherein said application distinct tag further comprises a plurality of fiber optic strands within said

linkage device wherein said strands possess unique frequency characteristics which will change when said linkage device is tampered with.

Claim 103 (New) The linkage device of claim 1 wherein said application distinct tag further comprises electrically conductive material with a known resistance wherein said resistance will change when said linkage device is tampered with.

Claim 104 (New) The linkage device of claim 1 wherein said application distinct tag comprises a microchip which stores information.

Claim 105 (New) The linkage device of claim 1 wherein said application distinct tag emits a signal which is used to determine a location of said linkage device.

Claim 106 (New) The linkage device of claim 1 wherein said hub comprises a plurality of openings to receive a plurality of strips.

Claim 107 (New) The linkage device of claim 1 further comprising a plurality of strips located on a plurality of surfaces of the hub.

Claim 108 (New) The linkage device of claim 1 further comprising a signage area wherein when a plurality of linkage devices are connected a complete sign is formed.

Claim 109 (New) The linkage device of claim 1 wherein the strip is of a length to allow the second end of the strip to connect to the opening in the closure hub.